

December 12, 2007

Contact: Robin Winchell (202) 225-4031

**WASHINGTON, DC** - U.S. Rep. Charlie Melancon announced today that the House leadership, through the Democratic Steering Committee, has nominated him to serve on the Energy and Commerce Committee in the 110<sup>th</sup> Congress. Energy and Commerce, which is one of four exclusive committees in the House, has broad jurisdiction over health, energy, environment, telecommunications, commerce, and oversight issues. Nominations are subject to a final vote by the full Democratic Caucus when Congress adjourns in January.

**"I am honored my colleagues have nominated me to serve on the Energy and Commerce Committee and am happy for the opportunity to advocate for Louisiana's interests at this level," said Melancon. "As I told the leadership when I made my case for this appointment, Louisiana needs a voice on Energy and Commerce and we haven't had one in the last two years. I am pleased they agreed."**

**"Like former Congressmen Billy Tauzin and Chris John, who also served on Energy and Commerce, I hope to use the position to encourage the growth of our energy industry, creating good-paying jobs for Louisianians and helping us move forward with rebuilding our economy. I will also work to make improving the affordability and access of health care for all working Americans and developing telecommunications infrastructure, especially in rural communities, a priority for the committee. I look forward to this challenging new opportunity to serve Louisiana."**

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